



# Abstract

A lifter device for separating the uppermost of a stack of flexible flat workpieces in suction holders for engaging a sheet when suction is applied thereto. At least one suction holder adjacent a side of the frame is movable independently of other suction holders spaced inwardly therefrom to bend an edge portion of the workpiece upwardly. A stop is provided on the frame to limit upward motion of the body of the sheet as the edge portion bends upwardly.